

NOTES ON NEW BOOKS.

CORNEILLE AND HIS TIMES; by M. GUIZOT. New York
Harper & Brothers. 1853.

Homer's day, in an epitaph on the sudden death of
 Francis I., says M. Guizot, (Fontenelle says it was written
 in memory "of a young man,") this same Ronsard ex-
 claims, pathetically—
 "Oeymore, dyspnothe, oligochronieus,"
 an elegiac line which we think will puzzle our French
 readers, though it will prove very easy reading to one
 skilled in the Greek.
 Ralf, who belongs to this same erudite school of poets,
 has a sonnet commencing
 "O pèbre Evien
 Bacche didymus," &c.
 * Let our readers should fail in apprehending the pre-
 cise significance of a *bel esprit* by translating too literally,
 we throw to the dedication of a poetical foot note:
 "Un bel esprit, si j'ai su le bien juger,
 Est un diseur de bagatelles.
 O ciel! diront les précieuses:
 Peut on se déchaîner contre le bel esprit?"
 † Sanderi wrote a romance, in ten mortal volumes, en-
 titled "Cyrus the Great." On the appearance of her
 work the Hotel de Rambouillet was enchanted by it, and
 the principal members sat by their pictures — "Persians
 or Babylonians, in "Cyrus." Hence, we believe, Jules
 d'Angennes' title of "Arthénice"—a character in the
 Romance.

* Let our readers should fail in apprehending the precise significance of a *bel esprit* by translating too literally, we throw its definition into a poetical foot note:

"Un bel esprit, si j'en sais bien jnger,
Est un diseur de bagatelles.
O ciel! diront les précieuses;
Peut-on se déshabiller contre le bel esprit!"

† Sanderi wrote a romance, in ten mortal volumes, entitled "Cyrus the Great." On the appearance of her work the *Hydra de Rambouillet* was enchanted by it, and the principal members sat for their pictures as *Peregrinus* or *Babylonians*, in "Cyrus." Hence, we believe, *Jules d'Angennes'* title of "Artenice"—a character in the romance.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.—A destructive fire occurred at Bardston, Illinois, on the 10th instant, by which the entire range of buildings known as Billing's block was demolished, with their contents. The loss is estimated at one hundred thousand dollars, the most of which was, however, covered by insurance.

OF NEW YORK,
*On the Resolutions reported from the Committee on
Foreign Relations in regard to the Tehuantepec treaty.*

In 1842, before the war between the United States and Mexico occurred, when Santa Anna, a brave, talented, and energetic leader, who had distinguished himself in the political career, sometimes given a compelled assent to the federal principle, but who seems, nevertheless, to have been all the time a centralist at heart, had attained the provisional executive power. During his administration, the Dictator of Mexico, a grandson of Mexico, and a favorite of the Dictator, for all Dictators have their favorites, and he is sorry to say that Santa Anna is not the most pure of that class of magistrates—Don José Garay, and other members of his family, obtained from Santa Anna, besides the monopoly of opening the passage across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, a concession of Mexico, and a exclusive right to navigate with steam the Rio Grande; a second, a exclusive right to navigate the river Panuco; a third, the exclusive right to navigate the river Mucuala or Zacatlula; a fourth, the exclusive right of connecting Vera Cruz by rail with Mexico, and a fifth, the exclusive right to carry on an over-sea assessment upon the coast; connected with these, a sixth, the exclusive right to carry on the coast of Vera Cruz. I am informed that the products of that coast have exceeded \$1,000,000. With that vast sum of money a railroad has been made from Vera Cruz towards

certain bases, called the Bases of Tacubaya, modified and accepted by those conventions, had in 1842 given to his favorite a grant, which, for want of compliance by the grantee with its conditions, had expired and was void. In 1846 the Government established by Paredes, and administered by Bravo, was in power. A revolutionary movement, distinguished as the Revolution of the Citadel, deposed Bravo and recalled Santa Anna, then in exile, and *ad interim* advanced Salas, a brigadier general, to the Supreme Executive power. He came into that office on the 4th of August, 1846, and limited his own powers by

On this point the Mexican Government explains that the grant to which their commissioner alluded in making this reply was the grant of Garay, and the assignment to Manning, Mackintosh & Snyder, of which the Mexican Government then had notice; which assignment, as we have before shown, was an assignment of the *lands conceded with the right*, and not of the right to open the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, which last-mentioned right, according to the notice which had been served upon them, expressly remained in Garay. This is a sufficient answer until the committee can show that the Mexican Government knew